Oil and Gas Projects in Haryana

2365. SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHRI. Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various Oil/Gas related scheme/projects in Haryana have been pending with the Union Government for a long period;

(b) if so, since when and the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in giving approval to them; and

(d) the time by which the approval is likely to be given to each of these projects and schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) to (d) There is only one project in Haryana namely Kamal Refinery which is to be set up by the Indian Oil Corporation. The modalities of its implementation are being worked out.

Petrol/Diesel Retail Outlets and LPG Agencies in Tamil Nadu

2366. DR. (SMT) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies and the number of petrol/diesel retail outlets in Tamil Nadu and particularly in Periyar and Salim Districts;

(b) whether there is any proposal to allot new LPG agencies and petrol retails outlets; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a)

		RO	*LPG*
Tamil Nadu	-	1399	305
Periyar	-	77	14
Salem	-	117	17

(b) and (c): New petrol/diesel retails outlets and LPG distributorships are opened in different places as per Marketing Plans, availability of products, etc.

Black Stone and Granite Deposits in Santhal Parganas Bihar

2367. SHRI SI MON MARANDI: Will the Minister of MINIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are huge deposits of black stone and granite in Santhal Parganas of Bihar;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for mining of better quality of granite and black stone in this area;

(c) the quantity of granite being exported, the countries to which it is being exported and the earnings from export by the Government during 1990-91;

(d) whether the Union Government have formulated any plan for development of this area and making granite and black stone export-oriented during the last three years;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Occurrances of granite hava been reported in Deoghar, Godda and Bhagalpur districts where reserves of 19 million cu.m hava been astimated. Black stone ballast/bouldars occur in Pakud areas of Sahibganj district.

As per information available, Bihar State Mineral Devalopmant Corporation, a State Public Sector Undertaking has a proposal to set up a processing plant in the joint sector at Daltonganj in Palamau district for manufacture of export quality pink granite blocks.

(c) As per information available, 6,14,767 tonnes of granite was exported during 1990-91 from India. Principal markets for Indian rough and cut blocks of granite are Japan, Italy, Netherlands, Germany, Belgium and Singapore while the principal markats for polished granite are UK, USA, USSR, Japan, Germany and Netharlands. Besides Saudi Arbia, Kuwait, UAF, Canada, Malayasia, New Zealand etc. also important granite from India. The value of exports of granite in 1990-91 was approximately Rs. 198 crores.

While royalty and the levies on granite accrue to concerned State Governments, earnings from exports go to the individual exporters of granite.

(d) to (f): Since granite is a minor mineral, the development of granite deposits is the responsibility of the State Government. The Union Government have given incentives for encouraging exports of granite like providing export finance at concessional interest, waiving of customs and excise duties on equipments required for 100% Export Oriented Units and concession from payment of tax under the Income tax Act.

Restructuring of ONGC

2368. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to restructure the Oil and Natural Gas Commission; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) end (b) There have been many suggestions but no formal decision to restructure the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has been taken by the Government.

Procurament of Raw Cashewnuts by NAFED

2369. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NAFED propose to procure raw cashewnuts from cashew growers in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantity of cashewnuts proposed to be procured during 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPLLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Under the Kerala Raw Cashewnut (Procurement & Distribution) Act, 1981, only a Cooperative Society registered under the Kerala Cooperative Society Act, 1969 can